

October 16, 1996

EA 96-383

Florida Power & Light Company
ATTN: Mr. T. F. Plunkett
President - Nuclear Division
P. O. Box 14000
Juno Beach, Florida 33408-0420

SUBJECT: (NRC INSPECTION REPORT 50-335/96-13 AND 50-389/96-13)
NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Dear Mr. Plunkett:

An NRC inspection was conducted September 16 - 20, 1996, at your St. Lucie 1 and 2 reactor facilities. This was an inspection of your implementation of the requirements of 10 CFR 50.65, "Requirements for Monitoring the Effectiveness of Maintenance at Nuclear Power Plants" [the Maintenance Rule]. The enclosed report presents the results of that inspection.

Your program for implementing the requirements of the Maintenance Rule followed the guidance provided in NUMARC 93-01, "Industry Guideline for Monitoring the Effectiveness of Maintenance at Nuclear Power Plants," dated May 1993, which was endorsed in Regulatory Guide 1.160, "Monitoring the Effectiveness of Maintenance at Nuclear Power Plants," dated January 1995. However, your program was not well established due, in part, to lack of integration of Maintenance Rule processes into the daily plant routines coupled with a relatively new system engineering organization.

Based on the results of this inspection, the NRC has determined that violations of NRC requirements occurred. The violations are of concern because they collectively indicate that the effectiveness of your program implementation to this point is poor. This performance appeared to be due to two reasons: (1) Redesign and implementation of many program requirements for Maintenance Rule implementation during the immediate six months prior to the Rule becoming effective, and (2) a system engineering organization with new engineers (system owners) who have not implemented your program requirements and processes into their plant daily routines.

Although the violations identified were not considered programmatic in nature, we believe that management was not clearly focused on implementation of a program which would satisfy the Maintenance Rule in a timely manner, even though the industry had five years for Rule implementation. We remain concerned that management focus will be maintained to correct the deficiencies identified in this report. We will carefully review and monitor corrective actions for the root causes of the violations.

One positive area reviewed was assessments and audits associated with your implementation of the Maintenance Rule requirements. An assessment conducted in December 1995, facilitated program redesign. A Quality Assurance Audit of

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program implementation conducted in July 1996, provided additional information associated with program weaknesses. We believe the assessment and audit findings facilitated implementation of your current program and provided insight for improvement.

The violations are cited in the enclosed Notice of Violation, and the circumstances surrounding the violations are described in detail in the enclosed report. Please note that you are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. The NRC will use your response, in part, to determine whether further enforcement action is necessary to insure compliance with regulatory requirements.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR).

Sincerely,

ISI

Harold O. Christensen, Chief
Maintenance Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

EA 96-393

Docket Nos.: 50-335, 50-389
License Nos.: DPR-67, NPF-16

Enclosures: 1. Notice of Violation
2. Inspection Report
50-335/96-13,
50-389/96-13

Attachment: Handout on "St. Lucie Plant
Implementation of 10 CFR 50.65
Maintenance Rule"

cc w/encs:
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4

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